

Prior to Congressional Field Hearing, Rodriguez and House Homeland Security Chairman, Bennie Thompson will Meet with Border County Sheriffs and Announce \$60 Million Grant Program for Border Law Enforcement Agencies

(San Antonio, TX) - Tomorrow, Thursday, January 3rd, before the Congressional Field Hearing in El Paso to discuss border wait times and homeland security needs at ports of entry, Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez and Congressman Bennie Thompson, Chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security, will meet with border county sheriffs. The meeting will be an opportunity for the Congressmen to hear about local law enforcement needs and to discuss the \$60 million in grant funding that Congressman Rodriguez secured for border law enforcement agencies.

"I am proud to have the opportunity to have Chairman Thompson visit with border law enforcement representatives to learn more about the challenges faced by communities across the Texas-Mexico border as they work to support our nation's homeland security efforts," said Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez, a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security. "This hearing is an excellent opportunity for the Chairman to learn more about the challenges being faced daily at our ports of entry. I look forward to working with him to address the many issues that border communities manage on a daily basis as a result of increased security at our borders."

Last month, Congressman Rodriguez authored key legislation, H.R. 4309, with Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison to study the scope and impact of wait times at both southern and northern points of entry along the U.S. border. The Rodriguez-Hutchison study would provide the first set of comprehensive data and statistics on border wait times, and would help address the issue of increased wait times on the border due to heightened security at our ports.

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